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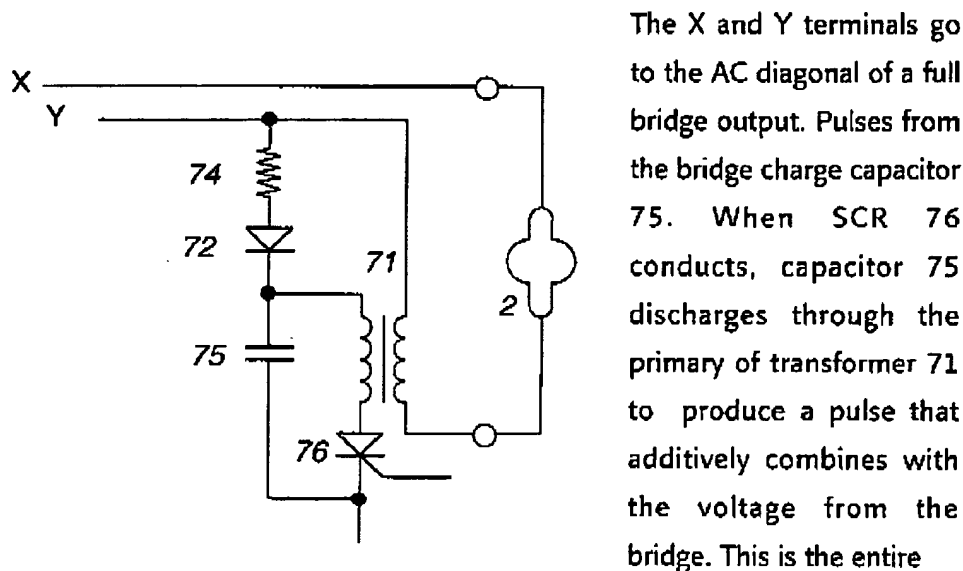
REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

The title has been amended. The specification has been amended to change "SSC" to "Scc" as suggested by the Examiner. The suggested guidelines are appreciated but have not been adopted by applicants.

Claims 1, 2, 3, and 6 have been rejected as anticipated by Yamamoto et al.

The Yamamoto et al. patent is concerned with starting an automotive headlamp with an extra pulse of high voltage from a discharging capacitor. The right hand of FIG. 1 of the Yamamoto et al. patent is reproduced below.



The X and Y terminals go to the AC diagonal of a full bridge output. Pulses from the bridge charge capacitor 75. When SCR 76 conducts, capacitor 75 discharges through the primary of transformer 71 to produce a pulse that additively combines with the voltage from the bridge. This is the entire

disclosure relating to starting. This is how the Yamamoto et al. patent discloses increasing lamp voltage for starting. This is not what applicants are claiming.

In applicants' claim 1, the second control circuit controls "the level of an output voltage of the DC-DC converter." Claim 1 further recites that the second control circuit changes the level of the output voltage from a first level for starting a lamp to a second level for running the lamp. Power control circuit 300 as disclosed in the Yamamoto et al. patent is just that, it controls power during

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normal operation. There is no disclosure of changing the output voltage from the DC-DC converter from a starting level to an operating level. The ballast disclosed in the Yamamoto et al. patent has one starting circuit, why does it need another one?

Because of the disclosure of the starting circuit reproduced above, and the absence of any mention of starting while describing control circuit 300, it is respectfully submitted that there is no anticipation of the invention as claimed.

The Examiner relies on the disclosure at column 16, lines 61ff, for disclosing two levels and, indeed, it does. The cited text discloses two levels of lamp power, not two levels of output voltage from the DC-DC converter for starting and running. Further, it is disclosed that power is controlled according to lamp temperature. It is respectfully submitted that these disclosures are irrelevant to starting a lamp at a first output voltage from the DC-DC converter and running a lamp at a second voltage from the DC-DC converter.

The allowance in substance of claims 4 and 5 is noted with appreciation. In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-6 are in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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